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STAT 4. [] GLC) Talked further with Wolf Rommel, of the Bureau of the Budget, concerning H. R. 7927, the postal rate bill which contains a section (section II) which would restrict Communist propaganda which comes into the U. S. through the U. S. mail. I told Rommel that we had some interest in this bill but that our interest was in a sensitive and classified area and that our interest was such that we would not support this section. However, I added that I did not feel our interest should be controlling in the overall position to be taken on this section. I advised Rommel that if the Bureau desired, we would be glad to give him a classified letter concerning our interest. Rommel informed me that at Friday's meeting in the Bureau, representatives of the National Science Foundation, USIA and State Department registered their opposition to this section. NSF opposes it because it would limit the flow of technical information from the Soviet Union. USIA and the State Department oppose it because they feel it would adversely effect reciprocal arrangements with the Soviet Union which permit us to send to Russia such things as the magazine AMERICA and would under-cut the position which we have taken that ours is a free and open society. Rommel indicated that there was going to be some difficulty in connection with this bill since the Post Office Department was anxious to get a postal rate bill through. Agency views are being coordinated through Mr. Harold Reis, in the Department of Justice.

At Mr. Rommel's suggestion, I called Mr. Reis and gave him the same information I had given Rommel. Reis asked if we could give them anything which could be used openly in registering opposition to this section and I advised that we could not. He then asked if a statement could be made by an Administration witness that this section would work to the detriment of CIA's functions. I told him we would not be in favor of this but saw no reason why a general statement could not be used to the effect that this would have an adverse effect on certain Government functions. Reis said he understood and indicated that at least for the moment, he did not feel a classified letter from the Agency was necessary.

STAT 5. [] - GLC) Christine Gill, in the Legislative Liaison office of USIA, called and asked if we had a copy of Secretary McNamara's unclassified statement before the Senate Armed Services Committee on 19 January 1962. I advised Miss Gill that we had the Secretary's statement before House Armed Services but not before the Senate Committee and suggested she request this item from the Department of Defense.